Appl. No. 10/772,829
Amdt. dated November 7, 2007
Reply to Office Action of July 12, 2007

<u>Amendments to the Drawings</u>

　　　　Please replace Fig. 1 with the enclosed revised drawing sheet, which adds the reference

numeral as requested by the Examiner.

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<u>Remarks</u>

The present amendment responds to the Official Action dated <u>July 12, 2007</u>. A petition

for a month extension of time and authorization to charge our credit card the one month

extension fee of $120 accompany this amendment. The Official Action objected to the

drawings. The Official Action objected to the specification. The Official Action objected to the

claims. The Official Action rejected claims 1-16 under U.S.C. 102(e) based on Cohen U.S.

Patent No. 6,560,576 (Cohen). The Official Action provisionally rejected claims 1 and 11-14

under the doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1 and 13 of copending

application No. 2005/0177373. A corrected drawing sheet is enclosed herewith. The

specification has been amended. A terminal disclaimer is submitted herewith. Claims 1 and 11

have been amended to be more clear and distinct. Claims 1-16 are presently pending.

<u>The Objection to the Drawings</u>

The Official Action objected to the drawings on the ground that Fig. 1 lacks the reference

numeral 100 referred to in the specification. A corrected drawing sheet is enclosed herewith.

Therefore, the objection to the drawings has been overcome and should be withdrawn.

<u>The Objection to the Specification</u>

The Official Action objected to the specification based the absence of the serial number

of a co-pending application referred to in the specification. The specification has been amended

to supply the serial number. With the present Amendment, this objection has now been

overcome and should be withdrawn.

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The Objection to the Claims

The Official Action objected to claim 1, which has been amended as suggested by the Examiner. In light of the present Amendment, this objection has been overcome and should be withdrawn.

The Art Rejections

All of the claims were rejected based on Cohen, standing alone. As addressed in greater detail below, Cohen does not support the Official Action's reading of it and the rejections based thereupon should be reconsidered and withdrawn. Further, the Applicants do not acquiesce in the analysis of Cohen made by the Official Action and respectfully traverse the Official Action's analysis underlying its rejections.

The Official Action rejected claims 1-16 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) based on Cohen. In light of the present amendment to claims 1 and 11, this ground of rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1, as amended, addresses a prompt selection module for selecting a prompt for presentation to a user, a prompt being a message from the system to the user calling for a user input appropriate to the function being performed, the prompt indicating the function being performed. The prompt selection module is operative to identify an experience level of a user and select a prompt appropriate to the user's experience level. Selection of prompts tends to favor the presentation of more abbreviated prompts to users with greater experience levels. The limitations of claim 1 in the claimed combination are not taught and are not made obvious by Cohen.

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Cohen teaches the selection of introductory help prompts as a user is learning to use a system, with help prompts being selected to present information about different features of the system as the user gains experience. The help prompts of Cohen typically do not in themselves call for particular user inputs at a particular time, and instead seek to explain to the user various actions that can be performed. The help prompts of Cohen are more in the nature of tutorial information, rather than calls for response. Cohen does not use the experience level of a user to favor the presentation of more abbreviated prompts to experienced users, but instead uses the experience level as a user to select information to be presented as it is relevant, with a higher experience level for a user often being used to select prompts introducing new aspects of a function that may be of interest. Presenting prompts that indicate the function being performed and calling for an appropriate user response, and favoring more abbreviated prompts from experienced users, as claimed by claim 1, as amended, allows for a more efficient prompt presentation to experienced users who are navigating a function. Claim 1, as amended, therefore defines over the cited art and should be allowed.

Claim 11, as amended, similarly addresses selecting a selecting a prompt appropriate for the user experience level for the function, with the prompt being a message from the system to the user calling for a user input appropriate to the function being performed and indicating the function being performed, selecting of a prompt tending to favor the presentation of more abbreviated prompts to users with higher experience levels. As noted above with respect to claim 1, these features are not taught and are not made obvious by Cohen. Claim 11, as amended, therefore defines over the cited art and should be allowed.

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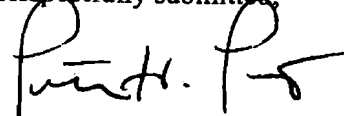Reply to Office Action of July 12, 2007

The Double Patenting Rejections

The Official Action provisionally rejected claims 1 and 11-14 under the doctrine of

obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1 and 10-13 of copending application No.

2005/0177373. A terminal disclaimer is submitted herewith. With this terminal disclaimer, the

double patenting rejection has been overcome and should be withdrawn.

Conclusion

All of the presently pending claims, as amended, appearing to define over the applied

references, withdrawal of the present rejection and prompt allowance are requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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FIG. 1